

Message Text

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63

ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 OMB-01 DEAE-00 AID-20 JUSE-00

TRSE-00 RSC-01 /041 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:DDCOHEN:BB

APPROVED BY S/NM:SBVANCE

ARA/MEX:JFKEANE (DRAFT)

ARA/LA:APSHANKLE (DRAFT

OMB:EJOHNSON (SUBS)

DEA:JBARTELS (SUBS)

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P 272055Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188057

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: MEXICAN POPPY ERADICATION PROGRAM

REF: A) STATE 185889; B) STATE 181745

1. FURTHER TO PARA 2 REF A, DURING OJEDA PAULLADA-VANCE-BARTELS MEETINGS LAST MAY, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PROPOSED THAT SEAM SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO COVER ALL OF POPPY GROWING AREAS IN MEXICO. AT THAT TIME, GIVEN MEXICAN CAPABILITIES, IT WAS DECIDED THAT MOST URGENT PRIORITY WAS TO IMPROVE SEAM OPERATION ON 1974 SCALE IN TIME FOR JANUARY 1975 CAMPAIGN. AS EXPLAINED REFTELS, PURPOSE OF TEAM IS TO FURTHER DEVELOP PLAN OF OPERATION TO ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE.

2. GIVEN INCREASING GRAVITY OF MEXICAN HEROIN THREAT TO US, WE HAVE ASKED THE TEAM LEADER, DONALD COHEN, TO REVIEW WITH MISSION FEASIBILITY OF MAJOR EXPANSION OF SEAM CONCEPT. OUR GOAL, IF IT CAN BE A JOINT GOAL WITH GOM, WOULD BE TO COVER ALL OF THE SIGNIFICANT POPPY GROWING AREAS OF MEXICO AT THE EARLIEST TIME POSSIBLE WITHIN THE
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CONTEXT OF A REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF MEXICAN CAPABILITIES

TO ABSORB EXPANDED US ASSISTANCE AND CARRY OUT EFFECTIVELY SUCH AN ENLARGED ERADICATION PROGRAM. DELAYS IN OBTAINING DELIVERY OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT ARGUE FOR EARLY PLACEMENT OF ORDERS.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO LIKE MISSION'S VIEWS ON

DESIRABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OUR ENDEAVORING TO WORK OUT A PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE TO MEXICAN ARMY IN ITS POPPY ERADICATION DUTIES, AS SUPPLEMENT TO SEAM. WE HAVE IN MIND HERE PROGRAM SEPARATE FROM BUT ADDITIONAL TO ONE INVOLVING ATTORNEY GENERAL. WE RECOGNIZE ONE PROBLEM WOULD BE THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY REACT NEGATIVELY.

4. FYI WALTER SEARS WILL ARRIVE AUGUST 29. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MEETINGS, POPPIES, JOINT VENTURES, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE188057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DDCOHEN:BB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740237-0211
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740814/aaaaalkt.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 185889; B) STATE 181745
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEXICAN POPPY ERADICATION PROGRAM
TAGS: SNAR, MX, US, (COHEN, DONALD)
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005